each panel with supporting center means and does not have a slot for the hinging devices.

Along the upper horizontal edges of each panel assembly is used a non-hinging border strip device whose outermost portion is detachable from its center support portion. The outermost portion is the elongated strip visable to a viewer which encloses the exposed edges of both wallboards of each panel assembly. The detachable nature of the upper edge border strip device provides for easy insertion and removal of each wallboard into the remaining three-sided border strip frame. Thus, the wallboards forming the front and rear surfaces of each panel assembly can be easily removed and inserted with new wallboards containing new display information. This feature allows the display system to be flexible in that several themes of display can be displayed merely by changing the wall boards within the device. A more detailed description of the border strip devices is set forth below.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1A is a perspective view of the display system device in its closed position.

FIG. 1B is a perspective view of the display system device showing two panel assembly groups, each in a substantially closed position.

FIG. 1C is a perspective view of the panel display system, having each panel assembly group partially opened.

FIG. 1D is a perspective view of the panel display system having each panel assembly group opened to a greater extent than that shown in FIG. 1C.

FIG. 1E is a perspective view of the panel display system wherein each panel assembly group is opened to form an accordion type display system.

FIG. 1F is a front view of the panel display system showing the system completely opened.

FIG. 2 is a perspective view of the display system wherein each panel assembly group is partially opened to form a display system having a shelf.

FIG. 3 is a perspective view of a corner hinging device with its slot inserts and corresponding border strip.

FIG. 4 is a perspective view of a two-way hinging device and corresponding slot inserts.

FIG. 4A is a perspective view of two panel assemblies having border strips along their confronting surfaces.

FIG. 5A is a perspective view of a border strip device having a longitudinal slot for connection to a hinging device.

FIG. 5B is a perspective view of a border strip device without a longitudinal slot.

FIG. 6 is a perspective view of a locking device for use with the border strip devices.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

In FIG. 1A is shown the panel display system, shown generally as **10**, having eight panel assemblies **11** through **18** inclusive, in a completely closed position. FIG. 1B shows the panel display system **10** partially opened to form two panel assembly groups, shown generally as **20** and **21**. Panel assembly group **20** comprises panel assemblies **11, 12, 13** and **14**, and similarly, panel assembly group **21** comprises panel assemblies **15, 16, 17** and **18**. It can be appreciated by those skilled in the art that each panel assembly group may consist of more than four panel assemblies.

In FIG. 1A through 1F is shown various hinging devices **30** and **31**, which allow the display system **10** to open in accordance with the sequence protrayed in FIGS. 1A through 1F. The hinging devices **30** and **31** along with their corresponding border strip devices, will be explained in greater detail below.

To increase the size of the display arrangement shown in FIG. 1B, panel assemblies **11** and **12** of group **20**, as well as panel assemblies **17** and **18** of group **21** are shown in their movable state in FIG. 1C. These panel assemblies, **11, 12, 17** and **18** can be raised to a vertical position as shown in FIG. 1D. The panel assembly arrangement in FIG. 1D provides a display system wherein height and not width is the desired display requirement. To open the panel assemblies further, assemblies **12, 13** and **17, 16** can be moved outward. This so-called accordion style panel arrangement is shown in FIG. 1E.

In FIG. 1F the panel display system **10** is shown completely open so that panel assemblies **11** through **18** inclusive form a rectangular display system four panel assemblies wide and two panel assemblies high. Also, hinging devices **30** and **31** are schematically shown throughout the display system. Between panel assemblies **11, 18** and **14, 15** respectively are holding alignment devices **32** which prevent the upper panel assemblies from slipping off the supporting lower panel assemblies **14** and **15**.

FIG. 2 shows a preferred embodiment of the panel display system wherein panel assembly group **20** is arranged at a 90° angle relative to panel assembly group **21**. Panel assemblies **14** and **15** are shown protruding from the remaining panel assemblies and thus form a shelf area **19**. This configuration of panel assemblies provides the necessary display area as well as providing a shelf for the display of particular products and the like. The shelf that fits into shelf area **19** is a common shelving device not shown in FIG. 2. It can be appreciated by those skilled in the art that the panel assemblies can be positioned to form various display configurations now shown in FIGS. 1A–F and FIG. 2.

In FIG. 3 is shown a perspective view of hinging device **31** which is attached to slot insert **32**. Slot insert **32** is inserted into slot **51** of border strip **50** as more fully detailed below. Hinging device **31** is attached to slot insert **32** by screw means, not shown, known to those skilled in the art. Hinging device **31** is located along the upper edge of panel assemblies **12** and **13**, and similarly between panel assemblies **16** and **17**. These hinging devices **31** provide the necessary movable support means by which the panel assemblies are enabled to be moved upward or downward.

Hinging device **30**, shown in FIG. 4, with its corresponding slot inserts **32**, is mounted on the vertical edges of the panel assemblies so that each panel assembly is able to move horizontally outward from its confronting panel assembly. For example, the movement of panel assemblies shown in FIGS. 1D, 1E and 1F utilizes hinging device **30**.

In FIG. 4A is shown two substantially parallel and confronting panel assemblies having border strip devices **50** confronting each other. The slot portions **51** of border strip **50** extend substantially the entire length of border strip **50** and receive the slot insert **32** shown in FIG. 4. Mounted to each slot insert **32** is hinging device **30**, in a conventional manner. Thus, the hinging device